

## OPINION 1867

### *Phyllophis carinata* Günther, 1864 (currently *Elaphe carinata*; Reptilia, Serpentes): specific name conserved

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Reptilia; Serpentes; snakes; COLUBRIDAE; *Elaphe carinata*; China; Japan.

#### Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers it is hereby ruled that the specific name *carinata* Günther, 1864, as published in the binomen *Phyllophis carinata*, is not invalid by reason of having been replaced before 1961 as a junior secondary homonym of *Coluber carinatus* Linnaeus, 1758.
- (2) The name *carinata* Günther, 1864, as published in the binomen *Phyllophis carinata* and as ruled under the plenary powers in (1) above to be not invalid by reason of having been replaced before 1961 as a junior secondary homonym of *Coluber carinatus* Linnaeus, 1758, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *phyllophis* Boulenger, 1891, as published in the binomen *Coluber phyllophis*, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology (a junior objective synonym of *Phyllophis carinata* Günther, 1864).

#### History of Case 2850

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Phyllophis carinata* Günther, 1864 was received from Prof Hobart M. Smith (*University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, U.S.A.*), Prof Hidetoshi Ota (*University of the Ryukyus, Nishihara, Okinawa, Japan*) and Dr Van Wallach (*Center for Vertebrate Studies, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) on 4 June 1992. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 52: 166–169 (June 1995). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Comments in support from Dr James R. Dixon (*Texas A & M University, Texas, U.S.A.*) and from Dr Tsutomu Hikida (*Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan*) were published in BZN 52: 345–346 (December 1995).

A further comment in support from Dr Michihisa Toriba (*Japan Snake Institute, Gunma, Japan*) was published in BZN 53: 50 (March 1996).

#### Decision of the Commission

On 16 September 1996 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 52: 168. At the close of the voting period on 16 December 1996 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 23: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Cocks, Cogger, Eschmeyer, Heppell, Kabata, Kerzhner, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Savage, Schuster, Song, Štys

Negative votes — none.

Dupuis abstained.

No vote was received from Martins de Souza.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Dupuis commented: 'I refuse to vote on this case because in my personal view the time between the last comment and the distribution of voting papers was too short. The last comment was less than one year old'. [*Editorial note*. The comment was one of support. An explanation of procedure followed in sending cases for voting is given on pp. 53-54].

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*carinata*, *Phyllophis*, Günther, 1864. *The reptiles of British India*, p. 295.

*phyllophis*, *Coluber*, Boulenger, 1891, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, (6)7(39): 281.